

1. [Govt seeks views on pricing patented drugs](#) – Mint

Upbraided by the parliamentary standing Committee for its “gross negligence and lackadaisical attitude”, the department of pharmaceuticals has set about seeking suggestions from different ministries on price regulation of patented drugs.

Under India’s patent law, compulsory licensing by the government for patents awarded to drugs can be done only under certain cases of public health emergencies. The department of industrial policies and promotion (DIPP), under whose aegis the law falls, may explore whether there can be changes made to the law.

2. [Government plans to create patent sharing regime](#) – Business Standard

The central government plans to create a policy framework to enable patent sharing between companies and academia in order promote innovation happening at education and research institutes, while creating a market opportunity for them, said Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Communication and Information Technology on Thursday.

3. [European Union-India joint drug inspection may take off](#) – The Economic Times

The drug regulators of European Union and India have in-principle agreed to conduct joint inspections of pharmaceutical manufacturing units in India to avoid “misunderstandings” and prevent resorting to harsh steps as was in the case of GVK Bio, said a senior official in the Ministry of Commerce. Anice Chandra Joseph, director, Department of Commerce, said, “The EU drug regulators have “in-principle” agreed to joint inspections. Now, if there's a regulatory visit to one of the plants, our regulator is willing to send their representatives along with their officials.”

Similar report-

- [India, EU to ink pact on pharma exports soon](#) – The Financial Express

4. [Pharma exports to maintain growth pace](#) – The Hindu

Leaders of the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) on Thursday exuded the confidence that pharmaceutical exports from the country would continue to maintain the trajectory of over 10 per cent growth. The strengths of the industry had been its ability to embrace technology and adhere to high quality standards, leaders led by Chairman M. Madan Mohan Reddy said here on Thursday. On the eve of the annual general meeting of the Council, they felt that the growth of pharma exports would be in the 10-12 per cent range in the current fiscal. The exports

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4. [Pharma exports to maintain growth pace](#) – The Hindu
5. [Syngene closes deal to buy Strand Life's bioinformatics platforms](#) – Business Standard
6. [US FDA gives tentative approval for Aurobindo's generic HIV drug](#) – Business Standard
7. [300 Jan Aushadi stores](#) – The New Indian Express
8. [e-health & UCPMP deter pharma cos from unethical marketing practices: Phanish Chandra](#) – Pharmabiz.com

last fiscal were \$16.89 billion. According to a release, generics (drug formulations) was the third largest among the principal commodities exported by India during 2015-16. Pharmaceuticals as a whole, inclusive of other components like bulk drugs, ayush and herbals and surgicals under the purview of Pharmexcil, contributed 6.44 per cent of the total exports of the country during last fiscal.

5. [Syngene closes deal to buy Strand Life's bioinformatics platforms](#) – **Business Standard**

The Bangalore-based contract research organisation (CRO) Syngene International Ltd, a Biocon company, has completed a deal through which it has purchased assets of Strand Life Sciences related to systems biology, Heptox and pharma bioinformatics services. This includes target dossier business and rights to NGS data analytics and Sarchitect platforms, supported by a strong scientific team.

6. [US FDA gives tentative approval for Aurobindo's generic HIV drug](#) – **Business Standard**

Aurobindo Pharma Limited announced on Thursday that it has received tentative approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (US FDA) for Dolutegravir 50 mg. This is the first FDA approval for a generic version of Dolutegravir, an integrase inhibitor recommended for use in treatment of HIV patients by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organisation (WHO). WHO included Dolutegravir in its recommendations for first-line therapy in 2015. "We expect growth in demand now that a cost-effective generic product is available. Dolutegravir, taken with other HIV treatments, has the potential to improve the lives of millions of patients," David Ripin, executive vice-president of the Clinton Health Access Initiative, said.

7. [300 Jan Aushadi stores](#) – **The New Indian Express**

The Pharmaceutical Society of Kerala, a subsidiary of Kerala State Pharmacy Council will sign an MoU with Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertaking of India, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Centre Government to open Jan Aushadhi Stores in the government hospitals across the state. As part of the MoU, as many as 300 Jan Aushadhi Stores will be started in the government hospitals. Jan Aushadi stores are aimed at selling quality generic medicines at an economic price.

8. [e-health & UCPMP deter pharma cos from unethical marketing practices: Phanish Chandra](#) – **Pharmabiz.com**

Increasing digitization of healthcare systems and the Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) both will act as a deterrent for pharma companies from resorting to unethical marketing practices, said Phanish Chandra, CEO, Docplexus, an online community for doctors. The Union government is now working to release the UCPMP. The mandatory code will replace the existing voluntary UCPMP.

"We have seen in the western countries, especially in USA with Sunshine Act, details of payment to doctors and their prescriptions are made public by digitization. Expert opinion suggests that there is a correlation between the increased digitization and ethical practices, as digitization of any information leaves a trace behind. Doctors and many pharma companies have started to realize that it is better for them to engage in ethical and lawful interactions than to have their reputation at stake," said Chandra.